

WAYNE OWENS
UTAH - 2nd DISTRICT

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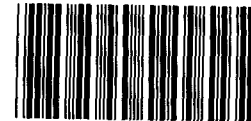
SELECT COMMITTEES:

AGING

INTELLIGENCE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

April 24, 1992



335494

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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84119

EXPEDITE

Mr. William K. Reilly, Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
401 M Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Re: EPA's Proposed Listing of Richardson Flat Tailings
Tailings Site, Summit County, Utah, on the National
Priorities List

Dear Mr. Reilly,

It has been brought to my attention that EPA is proposing to list the Richardson Flat Tailings site in Summit County, Utah, on the National Priorities List. EPA's listing of this site would cause serious consequences in my State and may irreparably damage a vulnerable company that has been a major contributor to Utah's economic strength.

I am particularly troubled by EPA's proposed listing of the Richardson Flat site because such listing appears to contradict the conclusions of EPA's own quantitative, analytical reports concerning the site. For instance, I understand that EPA's 1989 Supplemental Site Inspection Report concludes there is no release to surface water from the Richardson Flat site, and EPA's 1988 Analytical Results Report for Ambient Air and Residential Characterization at Prospector Square, Park City, Utah, concludes that there is no air release of contaminants from Richardson Flat to Prospector Square (the closest population center). Furthermore, there do not seem to be any pressing health risks at the Richardson Flat site, since United Park City Mines Company has, at its own expense, covered almost the entire area with topsoil, seeded and re-vegetated the area, and fenced the entire area.

My initial investigations suggest that a number of procedural and substantive irregularities have occurred in EPA's analysis of the Richardson Flat site. I would like to review them with you and your appropriate staff member. Please advise me of convenient meeting dates so that I might arrange to have the

4/27/92

EXPEDITE

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appropriate people in attendance at that meeting.

In addition, I request that you carefully review and thoroughly respond to United Park City Mines Company's detailed, site-specific Comments, prior to EPA's expending any funds for Remedial Investigations, Feasibility Studies, or other additional studies at the site. I would appreciate receiving your written confirmation of your agreement to honor my request.

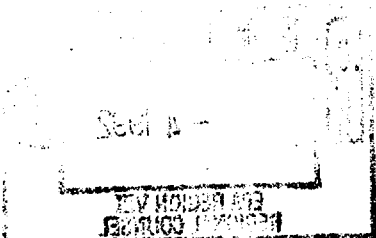
Thank you for your careful attention to this matter.

Cordially,


Wayne Owens

WO:mgp

cc: Jack W. McGraw
Acting Regional Administrator
EPA Region VIII
999 Eighteenth Street, Suite 500
Denver, CO 80202-2466



R. Baird 80R C info copy rec'd in 80R 4-27-92
FYI copies to: Jack McHraw
JBA 5/11/92
Bob Wagner 8/11/92

CONTROL SLIP FOR OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE

EXPEDITE

Mike McCeney
8HWM-SK 5/11/92
Patrick Bustos
80R 5/11/92
Hon Rushon
80R 5/11/92

CONTROL NO : AL922017
FROM : WAYNE OWENS D/UT
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

DUE DATE: 05/11/92

CORRES. DATE: 04/24/92

RECEIVED: 04/27/92

ASSIGNED: 04/27/92

SALUTATION : DEAR MR. OWENS:

HS has the action

CLOSED : / /

CONSTITUENT :

SUBJECT : RICHARDSON FLAT TAILINGS SITE/NPL MEETING/RESPOND TO UNITED
PARK CITY MINES COMPANY'S DETAILED SITE-SPECIFIC COMMENTS

SIGNATURE : ADMINISTRATOR

COURTESY COPIES:

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SOLID WASTE & EMERG RESP
AIR & RADIATION

DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR
OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT
POLICY, PLANNING & EVALUATION
WATER
REGION 8 OLA/ROBERTS CLA/QUINN

ASSIGNED : CONG. & LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS - H Qs.

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DISPATCHING. INCLUDE "HARD" COPY OF REPLY FOR CONGRESSIONAL
FILES (AL).

IMS: EBM